

1. (Currently Amended) A carrier medium for analyzing an analyte, comprising:
at least two defined regions, to each of which at least one substance is applied; and in at least
two defined regions, with
a code that indicates showing which of the at least one substance is located in which of the at
least two defined regions, where the at least one substance is disposed differently in the defined
regions.
2. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 1, where several hundred substances are
applied in a corresponding number of the defined regions.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 1, where the defined regions are disposed
differently on two different carrier media.
5. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 1, further comprising a temperature
sensor.
6. (Currently Amended) The carrier medium of claim 1, where the code is from the group
comprising a bar code, a numeric code, an alphanumeric code, and ~~the~~ an arrangement of the defined
regions on the carrier medium.
7. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 1, where the code provides information

for a device reading the carrier medium as to how the device should read which of the defined regions.

8. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 1, where the code contains information on the expiration date of the carrier medium.

9. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 1, where the code contains information on the storage of the carrier medium from the time the carrier medium is manufactured until the time the carrier medium is used.

10. (Currently Amended) The carrier medium of claim 1, where the carrier medium comprises ~~is composed of~~ a material from the group that includes ~~comprising~~ a film, a glass carrier, or a paper.

11. (Currently Amended) The carrier medium of claim 1, where the at least one substance is from the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances, and where the group includes ~~comprising biological substances and chemical substances comprises a substance from the group comprising~~ DNA, RNA, proteins, and antibodies.

12. (Withdrawn) A method for manufacturing a carrier media, comprising the steps of:

- a. producing a set of carrier media having a first arrangement of at least one physical characteristic of the carrier media;
- b. assigning a different code to each of the carrier media in the set;
- c. storing the first arrangement along with the associated code;

- d. selecting a second arrangement of the at least one physical characteristic of the carrier media that is different from the first arrangement;
- e. implementing steps a through c for the second arrangement; and
- f. implementing steps a through c for subsequent arrangements different from the arrangements previously used.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where the code comprises a numbering of each one of carrier media.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where the at least one physical characteristic of the carrier media is an arrangement of at least one substance within a defined region on each one of the carrier media, and where the at least one substance is printed within the defined region using an ink jet printing process.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where the set of carrier media comprises approximately 1,000 to 10,000 carrier media.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where several hundred sets of the carrier media are manufactured.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where one carrier medium each is selected from different sets of the carrier media and the selected carrier media are packed together.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where a plurality of the sets of the carrier media are mixed together and the carrier media are randomly selected from the mixed sets of the carrier media for inclusion in a common pack.

19. (Withdrawn) A device for reading a carrier medium having at least one optical detector per defined region on the carrier medium, wherein each optical detector detects reactions of certain substances in the defined regions on an analyte and provides corresponding signals when the carrier medium is in a read position relative to the device.

20. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 19, where the carrier medium includes a code, and where the device further comprises means for acquiring and transmitting the code to an administrative center.

21. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 19, where the optical detector is a semiconductor chip.

22. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 19, further comprising means for digitizing the detected signals.

23. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 19, further comprising means for transmitting the detected signals to the administrative center.

24. (Withdrawn) A method for reading a carrier medium, comprising the steps of:

- a. applying an to the carrier medium, the carrier medium having at least one defined

region;

- b. moving the carrier medium into a read position relative to a device for reading the carrier medium;
- c. transmitting a code of the carrier medium to an administrative center; and
- d. within the administrative center, evaluating the code and determining an associated arrangement of the carrier medium.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, where in step d. the steps of evaluating the code and determining the associated arrangement within the administrative center are performed by the administrative center at no cost and a fee is charged if the analyte has reacted positively to one of certain substances located in one of the at least one defined region on the carrier medium.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, where instructions are transmitted from the administrative center to the reading device as to how at least one optical detector is to be set for the at least one defined region.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, further comprising the step of:

- e. detecting reactions of each of the at least one defined region using the at least one optical detector and providing a detected signal indicative thereof.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of:

- f. transmitting the detected signal to the administrative center.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of:

g. transmitting the associated arrangement of the carrier medium from the administrative center to the device, and reading the transmitted associated arrangement.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, where step b further comprises the step of detecting the reactions of each of the at least one defined region using at least one optical detector and providing a detected signal indicative thereof, and where step c further comprises the step of transmitting the detected signal to the administrative center.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of:

e. transmitting the associated arrangement of the carrier medium from the administrative center to the device.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, where instructions are transmitted by the administrative center to reset a certain one of the at least one defined region according to the detected signal.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, where a request is sent by the administrative center, in response to the detected signal, to read another carrier medium having an associated arrangement that is different from the associated arrangement of the first carrier medium after application of the analyte.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, where the detected signal and the code for transmittal

to the administrative center is keyed with a public key.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, where the transmission of the detected signal and the code to the administrative center is error-protection-coded.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where the at least one physical characteristic of the carrier media is a defined region on each one of the carrier media.

37. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where the at least one physical characteristic of the carrier media is an arrangement of at least one substance within a defined region on each one of the carrier media.

38. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, where the at least one substance is from the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances, and where the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances comprises a substance from the group comprising DNA, RNA, proteins, and antibodies.

39. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 12, where the at least one physical characteristic of the carrier media comprises a defined region on each one of the carrier media, and also comprises an arrangement of at least one substance within the defined region.

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, where the at least one substance is from the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances, and where the group comprising

biological substances and chemical substances comprises a substance from the group comprising DNA, RNA, proteins, and antibodies.

41. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 19, where the certain substances are from the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances, and where the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances comprises a substance from the group comprising DNA, RNA, proteins, and antibodies.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of:

g. transmitting the evaluated code of the carrier medium from the administrative center to the device, and reading the evaluated code.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 30, further comprising the step of:

g. transmitting the evaluated code of the carrier medium from the administrative center to the device.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25, where the certain substances are from the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances, and where the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances comprises a substance from the group comprising DNA, RNA, proteins, and antibodies.

45. (Currently Amended) A carrier medium for use in analyzing an analyte, ~~the carrier medium~~ comprising:

- _____ at least two defined regions, a substance ~~being~~ applied to each one of the at least two defined regions; ~~and the carrier medium also having~~

a code stored ~~thereon~~ the carrier medium, the code being indicative of a type of the substance applied to each one of the at least two defined regions and to each one of which ~~one or more~~ of the at least two defined regions ~~that the substance is applied to,~~ where the at least one substance is disposed differently in the defined regions.

46. (Currently Amended) The carrier medium of claim 45, where the substance is from the group comprising biological substances and chemical substances, and where the group ~~comprising biological substances and chemical substances comprises a substance from the group comprising~~ includes DNA, RNA, proteins, and antibodies.